

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, URGING RESIDENTS AND VISITORS TO PARTICIPATE IN A CELEBRATION IN MARCH 2022 TO COMMEMORATE 200 YEARS OF KEY WEST AND THE FLORIDA KEYS AS A TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES; AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO PROVIDE COPIES OF THIS RESOLUTION TO CERTAIN NAMED DIGNITARIES; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

WHEREAS, March 25, 2022 will mark 200 years since Lt. Commander Matthew C. Perry sailed the schooner USS Shark to Key West and planted the U.S. flag, claiming Key West and the Florida Keys as property of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission recognizes the efforts of a Committee organizing the 200 Year Celebration of Key West and the Florida Keys becoming a territory of the United States; and

WHEREAS, 2022 will kick off a series of celebrations over upcoming years for several other important bicentennials, including the founding of the City of Key West in 1828 and the establishment of the U.S. Navy's presence in Key West beginning in 1823 when a Naval Base was established to stop piracy in the area; and

WHEREAS, Committee members are working on the March 25<sup>th</sup> grand celebration and also to recognize the contributions, culture and history of Key West over the past 200 years

including but not limited to the earliest indigenous residents and settlers to the island including Bahamians, Cubans, also concentrating on our fishing industry, baseball, heritage of cigar-making, our One human Family philosophy, and our conch architecture; and

WHEREAS, during the March 25, 2022 week, plans include a Conch picnic, a formal dinner with dignitaries, a formal ceremony on March 25th, walking tours, tours on the sea, a local merchant street festival, a parade and more.

WHEREAS, the City Commission urges and invites all residents to participate in celebrations to recognize this important milestone for the City of Key West.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That the City Commission urges all residents, visitors, and interested dignitaries, to mark the week including March 25, 2022 on your calendar to participate in a celebration of Key West's 200 years as a territory of the United States.

Section 2: To encourage and invite participation in the celebration, the City Clerk is directed to send copies of this Resolution to members of the Monroe County Board of County Commissioners, to Captain Mark Sohaney, current

Commander of NAS Key West, to Captain Adam Chamie, current  
Commander of Coast Guard Sector Key West, to Florida Governor  
Ron DeSantis and to U.S. President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.

Section 3: That this Resolution shall go into effect  
immediately upon its passage and adoption and authentication  
by the signature of the Presiding Officer and the Clerk of  
the Commission.

Passed and adopted by the City Commission at a meeting  
held this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

Authenticated by the Presiding Officer and Clerk of the  
Commission on \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

Filed with the Clerk on \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

Mayor Teri Johnston	_____
Vice Mayor Sam Kaufman	_____
Commissioner Gregory Davila	_____
Commissioner Mary Lou Hoover	_____
Commissioner Clayton Lopez	_____
Commissioner Billy Wardlow	_____
Commissioner Jimmy Weekley	_____

\_\_\_\_\_  
TERI JOHNSTON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHERYL SMITH, CITY CLERK